

Commissioned in honor of Dr H Morris Stevens Jr; Music Educator, Conductor,
Church Musician, and Founder of the St Edward's University Masterworks Singers

THE GIFT TO SING

for SATB (with divisi) & piano

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON
(1871–1938)

KIM ANDRÉ ARNESEN
(b 1980)

Softly, always flexible ♩ = c72

SOPRANO or TENOR
Solo or group *ad lib*

p

Some - times, some-times the mist o - ver - hangs my path,

Softly, always flexible ♩ = c72

PIANO

p

con Ped

poco rit

5

And black-ning clouds a - bout me cling; But, oh, I have a ma - gic way.

poco rit

mp

a tempo *mp* *mf*

To turn the gloom to cheer - ful day -

a tempo *mf*

meno mosso ♩ = c54 *pp* **rit** *pp*

I soft - ly sing, I soft - ly sing, I soft - ly sing.

meno mosso ♩ = c54 *pp* **rit** *pp*

Tempo I *pp* *p*

Tutti

S And if the way grows dark -

A And if the way grows dark -

T

B

Tempo I *p*

20

- er still, Sha - dowed by Sor - row's

- er still, Sha - dowed by Sor - row's

Sha - dowed by Sor - row's

Sha - dowed by Sor - row's

p

cresc

22

som - ber wing, With glad de - fi - ance in my throat,

som - ber wing, With glad de - fi - ance in my throat,

som - ber wing, With glad de - fi - ance in my throat,

som - ber wing, With glad de - fi - ance in my throat,

mf

mf

mf

mf

poco rit

poco rit

a tempo

25 *mp* *fp*

I pierce the dark - ness with a note,

I pierce the dark - ness with a note,

I pierce the dark - ness with a note,

I pierce the dark - ness with a note,

a tempo

mp *f*

meno mosso ♩ = c54

poco rit

29 *p* *f*

And sing, and sing, and sing.

And sing, and sing, and sing.

And sing, and sing, and sing.

And sing, and sing, and sing.

meno mosso ♩ = c54

poco rit

mf

for rehearsal only

un poco più mosso ♩ = 84

molto rit

33

f *ff* *ff* *ff*

No
No
bring; No

f *ff*

un poco più mosso ♩ = 84

molto rit

f *ff*

meno mosso

37

p *p* *p* *p*

nights are dark, no days are long, While in my heart there
nights are dark, no days are long, While in my heart there
nights are dark, no days are long, While in my heart there
nights are dark, no days are long, While in my heart there

meno mosso

ff *p*